



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service**



Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2010 Chicken Inventory and Egg Production

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There were 535,000 chickens (excluding broilers) on Montana farms and ranches on December 1, 2010, down 1 percent from a year ago. The December 1, 2010 inventory included 375,000 layers 20 weeks old and older and 160,000 pullets. The total value of all chickens on December 1, 2010 was \$2.6 million, up 16 percent from last year. The average value per bird, at \$4.80, was up \$0.70 per bird from 2009.

Montana chickens produced 119 million eggs during the year ending November 30, 2010, up 11 percent from 2009. The state had an average of 375,000 layers in 2010, up 7 percent from a year ago. The average production per layer on hand was 317 eggs, up from 305 in 2009.

Layer numbers in the U.S. during 2010 averaged 340 million, up 1 percent from the year earlier. The annual average production per layer on hand in 2010 was 269 eggs, up slightly from 2009.

United States egg production during the year ending November 30, 2010 totaled 91.4 billion eggs, up 1 percent from 2009. Table egg production, at 78.5 billion eggs, was up 1 percent from the previous year. Hatching egg production, at 12.9 billion eggs, was up 1 percent from 2009.

The total number of chickens on hand on December 1, 2010 (excluding commercial broilers) was 455 million birds, up 1 percent from last year.

The U.S. total value of all chickens on December 1, 2010 was \$1.60 billion, up 6 percent from December 1, 2009. The average value per bird increased from \$3.34 on December 1, 2009, to \$3.52 per bird on December 1, 2010.

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